

U.S. Serial No.: 10/741,495
Reply to Office Action of: November 1, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the present application:

Listing of Claims:

1. **(currently amended)** An oscillator circuit for generating signals with a predetermined oscillator frequency, the oscillator circuit comprising:

at least one stripline resonator having a looped structure; and,

at least one ~~load impedance~~ capacitor connected to the stripline resonator, the ~~load impedance capacitor~~ having at least one structure which may be machined by means of high-energy radiation to vary its capacitance and to trim the resonant characteristics of the oscillator circuit.
2. (original) The oscillator circuit according to claim 1, wherein the high-energy radiation is laser radiation.
3. **(cancelled)**
4. **(currently amended)** The oscillator circuit according to claim ~~[[3]]~~ 1, wherein the capacitor comprises a monolithic base member of a dielectric material and at least one electrode arranged on an externally accessible surface of the base member, such that the capacitance may be reduced by removing at least part of the electrode.
5. **(currently amended)** The oscillator circuit according to claim 4, wherein the ~~load impedance capacitor~~ is a surface-mountable component.

6. **(cancelled)**

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7. (currently amended) The oscillator circuit according to claim [[6]] 5 wherein the load impedance capacitor is electrically connected with a central area of the stripline resonator.

8. (previously presented) A method of trimming the resonant characteristics of an oscillator, comprising the steps of:

determining the resonant characteristics of an oscillator with at least one looped stripline resonator and at least one load impedance;

comparing the determined resonant characteristics with predetermined nominal characteristics;

generating a control signal as a function of the result of the comparison and output of the control signal to a machining device; and

machining the load impedance as a function of the control signal.

9. (original) The method according to claim 8, wherein the machining unit comprises a laser.

10. (original) The method according to claim 8, wherein the step of machining the load impedance as a function of the control signal comprises removal of at least part of an electrode of a capacitor.

11. (cancelled)